

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 520

Supporting the efforts and activities of individuals, organizations, and other entities to honor the lives of enslaved Africans in the United States and to make reparations to their descendants for slavery and its lingering effects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 9, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the efforts and activities of individuals, organizations, and other entities to honor the lives of enslaved Africans in the United States and to make reparations to their descendants for slavery and its lingering effects.

Whereas the enslavement of Africans in the United States was and still is a shameful mark on the United States Government and the people of the United States;

Whereas descendants of enslaved Africans continue to experience racial discrimination, frequently manifested in the form of hate crimes;

Whereas the United States Government, as a party to the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, agrees that it cannot deny minorities the

right to speak their original language, practice their culture, and enjoy their religion;

Whereas African Americans are a numerical minority in the United States and are considered a minority by the United States Government;

Whereas due to slavery African Americans today suffer the ongoing and permanent loss of their original language, culture, and religion, which has resulted in incalculable damage to themselves as individuals and as a people;

Whereas the continued rejection of the justified demands of African Americans for reparations and the restoration of an international political identity would be the equivalent of the United States Government committing additional unjustified acts against African Americans and against the United Nations; and

Whereas numerous non profit organizations recognize August 17th as National Reparations Day: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3 (1) supports the efforts and activities of individ-
4 uals, organizations, institutions, and other entities to
5 honor the lives of enslaved Africans in the United
6 States and to make reparations to their descendants
7 for slavery and its lingering effects; and

8 (2) supports the goals and intent of National
9 Reparations Day.

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